Comity DIGEST



SEPTEMBER 2006

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

Mayor Antonovich Helps Kids Prepare for Earthquake with "Shakey Quakey" Schoolhouse Quake Simulator

In anticipation of National Emergency Preparedness Month in September and to urge County residents to prepare for the next earthquake, Mayor Michael D. Antonovich hosted 30 children from the Farnsworth County Park Summer Program in Altadena where they experienced "a real earthquake" in the "Shakey Quakey" Schoolhouse Van earthquake simulator. Representatives from the Los Angeles County Fire Department and the Los Angeles County Office of Emergency Management were also on hand at the event to answer questions and provide informational packets on earthquake safety and preparation.

The "Shakey Quakey" Schoolhouse Van earthquake simulator is a truck-mounted version of a "little red schoolhouse," with desks and a chalkboard, that school kids can clamber into and experience what an actual earthquake feels like, complete with falling objects (soft stuffed animals) and truly authentic earthquake noises.



"These children are doing their part to prepare for the next big earthquake," said Mayor Antonovich. "But each of us must prepare now to protect our families at home, at work and at school. You will need a first-aid kit, hand-operated canned food opener, bottled water, a flashlight, a battery-powered radio and an emergency plan for your family after the big one hits."

For a free informational packet, please contact Los Angeles County's Office of Emergency Management at (213) 974-1166 or online at www.espfocus.org.

Employee of the Month Regional Planning's

Dr. Russell Fricano

Dr. Russell Fricano, a 17-year County employee, is currently serving as a Supervising Regional Planner in Regional Planning, where he oversees the Zoning Permits II Section. As a Supervising Regional Planner, he and his section processes cases for development entitlements in the unincorporated Los Angeles County area, making sure the proposed developments are compatible with the surrounding area and meets the expressed goals of the County zoning ordinance.

"The most fulfilling part of my job is turning problems into solutions. Whenever I see two opposing sides reach consensus on a project, I find that very rewarding. Planning maintains a balance between natural resources and needs generated by urban growth. We must also take divergent needs of our constituents into account in the process. I enjoy the

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"To Enrich Lives Through Effective And Caring Service"

EVENT CALENDAR

Trail Ride

Come join Mayor Michael D. Antonovich at his next trail ride on October 15, 2006 at Frank G. Bonelli Regional Park, 250 Puddingstone Drive, San Dimas, CA 91773. The pancake breakfast and check-in will be at 7:00 a.m., followed by the trail ride at 9:00 a.m. The trail ride will begin at the staging area on the north shore and continue through the scenic trails of the Park. A traditional barbecue will follow, as well as live country western music and dancing. Refreshments will be provided during the two breaks on the trail ride. The cost for the trail ride and barbecue lunch is \$25.00 per person, and reservations can be made by calling (626) 575-5526. For horse rental reservations, please call the Bonelli Equestrian Center at (909) 599-8830 or the Graham Brothers Equestrian Center at (760) 245-7695.

Discover Marina Del Rey 2006

Burton Chace Park, 13650 Mindanao Way, Marina del Rey (310) 305-9545 www.labeaches.info Oct 8 11am-4pm

Ford Amphitheatre 2580 Cahuenga Blvd., East Hollywood, 90068 (323) GO-1 FORD (323)461-4673 www.fordamphitheatre.org

BWF - Big! World! Fun! Family Shows

SPR - Summer Play Readings

Sept 22 - KCRW presents: Kasey Chambers

Los Angeles County Arboretum & Botanic Garden 301 N. Baldwin Avenue, Arcadia 91007

For a list of seminars, workshops and classes, please visit www.arboretum.org or call (626) 821-4623

Los Angeles County Museum of Art 5905 Wilshire Blvd., Los Angeles 90036 (323) 857-6000

www.lacma.org

Through January 2007 - Breaking the Mode: LACMA's Contemporary Fashion Collection

Through Janury 2007 - Consider This...

October 12 - January 2007 - Masquerade: Role-Playing in Self-Portraiture-Photographs from the Audrey and Sydney Irmas Collection

Through December 10 - Glass: Material Matters

Music Center

135 N. Grand Ave., Los Angeles 90012 (213) 972-7211

www.musiccenter.org

Ahmanson Theatre

Through Oct 29 - Cherry Jones in "Doubt" Nov1-Dec10 – "The Light in the Piazza"

Dorothy Chandler Pavilion

Through Oct 1 - Giuseppe Verdi's Don Carlo Sept 30-Oct 21 - Jules Massenet's Manon

Mark Taper Forum

Oct 4-Nov 19 - "Nightingale"

Walt Disney Concert Hall 135 N. Grand Ave., Los Angeles 90012 (323) 850-2000 wdch.laphil.com

Los Angeles Master Chorale

Oct 22 - Homage to Haydn

Hollywood Bowl 2301 North Highland Ave., Hollywood 90078 (323) 850-2000 www.hollywoodbowl.com

SEPTEMBER

21 - Video Games Live: 2006

23 - Totally '80s with The Human League, The Psychedelic Fur & ABC

24 - Massive Attack & TV on the Radio

26 - Tom Petty & The Heartbreakers with The Strokes

Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County 900 Exposition Blvd., Los Angeles (213) 763-3466

www.nhm.org

Through Nov 5 - Spider Pavilion



Articles and other submissions to the *County* DIGEST may be edited or otherwise altered for clarity.

County DIGEST Editorial Offices Department of Human Resources 3333 Wilshire Blvd., Suite 1000 (10th floor) Los Angeles, CA 90010

(213) 738-2352 (213) 639-0940 FAX Available online at: hr.lacounty.gov



Supervisor Molina Welcomes Angela Chanslor 'Renacimiento'

Six years ago, a group of highly motivated women living in the Angela Chanslor neighborhood in Pomona decided to take matters into their own hands and revitalize their community. It had fallen victim to gangs, crime, and domestic violence. Tackling these problems was no easy task, but by working together these committed women began to make a difference. Recently, their efforts culminated in the grand opening of the Angela Chanslor Renacimiento Community Center. ("Renacimiento" means "rebirth" in Spanish.) Los Angeles County Supervisor Gloria Molina proudly supported the "Proyecto Renacimiento" women by sponsoring a \$10,000 grant for computers and by ensuring access to County-funded services in the Pomona area.

The facility is a dream come true for these fantastic women. They envisioned a family resource center situated directly in their neighborhood that offered residents a safe space in which to hold gang intervention sessions, obtain social services—including help against



Supervisor Molina congratulates some of the Proyecto Renacimiento women.

domestic violence—and host parenting classes. It also provided the Proyecto Renacimiento women with a place to centralize their volunteer efforts. However, well before groundbreaking on the center began, the Proyecto Renacimiento women already had made significant advances in their battle to revitalize the Angela Chanslor neighborhood. Because of them, countless families have received vital social service assistance—and crime has decreased in the area. But best of all, the Proyecto Renacimiento women have proved to themselves—and their community—that grassroots civic action works and that self-empowerment is both possible and gratifying. The Angela Chanslor Renacimiento Community Center is located at 2383 Chanslor Street in Pomona, California 91766. For more information, call (909) 627-3074.



Pomona residents recite the Pledge of Allegiance at the Angela Chanslor Renacimiento Community Center Grand Opening.

RETIREES

Congratulations to the following employees who are joining the ranks of the retired after 30 or more years of service to the people of the County of Los Angeles:

BEACHES & HARBORS: Lynetta Jordan CHILD SUPPORT SERVICES: Rose A. Waiters CHILDREN AND FAMILY SERVICES: Barbara Adler, Charles E. Butler, Maria E. Santos

COMMUNITY & SENIOR SERVICES: E. A.

Francis, Hilda Guillen

COUNTY COUNSEL: Ella S. Barragan

FIRE: Henry Sanchez

HEALTH SERVICES: Joyce E. Carrington, Curtis L. Carter, Leroy Dubose, Theresa Gonzales, Margarita G. Flores, Gail V. Franklin, Frances Johnson, Annie P. Johnson, Arthur Juarez Jr., Robert M. Travlee, Mildred L. Veith, Willetta Wilson, Bach-Hoa Wright

INTERNAL SERVICES: Pablo Diaz, William A. Scotti

PROBATION: David R. Eaton, Willie Scott

PUBLIC HEALTH: Nehemias Santos
PUBLIC SOCIAL SERVICES: Linda R. Angelo,

Mattie Harrison, Irma J. Marshall

SHERIFF: Mahlon Frey, Victor J. Reyes, Joyce

SUPERIOR COURT: Bernadette Duncan, Mark D. Kraveitz, Junius M. Roussel

Congratulations to the following employees who are joining the ranks of the retired after 25 or more years of service to the people of the County of Los Angeles:

CHIEFADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE: Frances N. Shelton

DISTRICT ATTORNEY: Dana C. Thompson **HEALTH SERVICES:** Lucina Chandler, Julieta Corpuz, Amelia L. De Francia, Han G. Lee, Michael R. Liebling, Vertia B. Nickson, In S. Noh, Gemma Sangalang, Gregoria Tan, Claudia Mc Cants

HUMAN RESOURCES/OFFICE OF PUBLIC

SAFETY: Richard M. Councilman

INTERNAL SERVICES: Louis R. Dietrich
PUBLIC SOCIAL SERVICES: Carlos S. Cao
SHERIFF: Dwight L. Develyn, Diane M. Bock,
Albert Gastellu

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challenges of these assignments," Dr. Fricano stated. When asked about his unique element, he explained "You must understand the needs of your constituents; view a development proposal in terms of its context, and de-mystify complex issues by explaining them in a straightforward way."



In addition to normal duties, he has been actively involved in the professional training of his staff. He provides training to his colleagues in the department and other planners in the downtown area for the American Institute of Certified Planners' Yearly Examination, and with his assistance, several staff members have succeeded in their efforts for membership, raising the professional quality of the staff and the overall productivity of the department. He also conducts research and presents papers at various conferences, and he has been the Editor of the Department's Newsletter, which has received a number of written commendations by the Director of Planning. He is also active in the County's Charitable Giving Program, lending his time on a voluntary basis.

Dr. Fricano received his Business Management degree from Canisius College in New York, a MBA from Texas Christian University, and a Ph.D in Urban Planning from the University of Southern California. Prior to joining the County, he was a Planning Intern for the City of Irving, Texas and with JBG Planners, Inc. He joined the County of Los Angeles as a Regional Planning Assistant in the Community Studies Section of the Advance Planning Division in 1989 and has since worked in various planning efforts, receiving a number of commendations in the process. After his promotion to Supervising Regional Planner in 2003, Dr. Fricano supervised the Zoning Permits I Section, then the Zoning Permits II Section in 2004, which he still oversees today.

"I appreciate the camaraderie and teamwork of my co-workers and other county departments. I have also learned a great deal from each of my supervisors," he added about his fondest memory working for the County.

Congratulations, Dr. Russell Fricano, and thank you for all your dedication to the County and to the public.



Supervisor Burke Celebrates Grand Opening of the Leon H. Washington Park Gymnasium and Community Center

On June 29th Supervisor Yvonne B. Burke, County of Los Angeles Parks and Recreation Director Russ Guiney, and the community of Florence-Firestone celebrated the grand opening of the Col. Leon H. Washington Park Gymnasium and Community Center in South Los Angeles. This state-of-the-art facility includes a PA system, kitchen, computer room equipped with thirteen new computers and a gymnasium.

Also joining in on the festivities were the Sacramento Kings' Jason Hart and former Los Angeles Clipper Olden Polynice, who signed autographs and gave tips to the children on dribbling and shooting the basketball. County of Los Angeles Parks and Recreation mascot, "SEEMORE the Eagle" was also in attendance to promote neighborhood pride and encourage residents to report vandalism, graffiti and other suspicious activities.

The opening of Washington Park's Gymnasium and Community Center is a great achievement for Florence-Firestone, as the park now offers programs such as aerobics, basketball leagues, nutrition and computer classes. Burke's Club, the park's after school program, will also benefit from the new resources.

Supervisor Burke dedicated the community room to the McGowan family. Monte McGowan was an active community leader who pushed for the funding of a gymnasium at Leon Washington Park.

Visit

http://hr.lacounty.gov
for information on
employment opportunities
with the
County of Los Angeles



Supervisor Burke and attending crowd celebrate during the ribbon cutting ceremony of the Leon H. Washington Park
Gymnasium and Community Center.



Supervisor Burke shoots hoops with Former Los Angeles Clipper, Olden Polynice at the Grand Opening of the Leon H. Washington Park Gymnasium and Community Center.

We Tip WELFARE FRAUD

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ENRICHING LIVES...

Parks and Recreation Month Celebrated with a Come Play With Us Event

Los Angeles County Department of Parks and Recreation celebrated Parks and Recreation Month with a *Come Play With Us* event held at the Los Angeles County Mall on Tuesday, July 11, 2006. Hundreds of County employees attended the event which offered a variety of recreational activities including playing tennis, rock climbing and hitting limited flight golf balls from mats.

The five Supervisorial Districts were represented with a booth decorated in colorful photos that highlighted an array of department facilities and programs including 19 County owned golf courses, 3 lakes, 4 botanical gardens, natural areas/sanctuaries, community parks, regional parks, the Hollywood Bowl, the Arboretum and the John Anson Ford Theatre. Other displays included the County's new Lake Lifeguard Boat and rescue apparatus and live reptiles in the Natural Area including snakes and owls. The Planning Division displayed a large map of current county parks and facilities and distributed trail maps. Representatives and architects from the Development Division demonstrated graphic presentation boards and models of design projects from inception to construction. An arts and crafts booth gave participants the opportunity to make crafts out of recycled materials and volunteers from Virginia Robinson Gardens designed beautiful flower arrangements from flowers they grew.

Entertainment was showcased by several groups representing a number of parks including the Jackie Robinson Park Boxing Club, East Rancho Dominguez Park Burke's



Sandy Dininger from Parks & Recreation along with Russ Guiney, Director of Los Angeles County Parks & Recreation Department, and Lillian Salinger, Counsel to Parks & Recreation

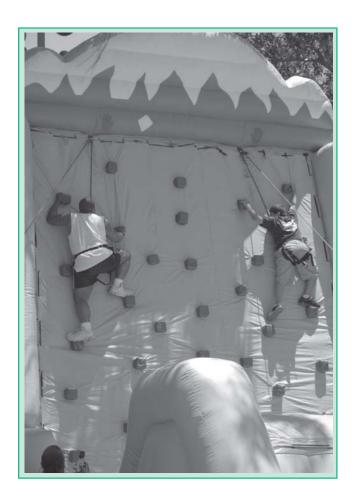


Members of the City Terrace Starz cheerleading group



Club, Ted Watkins Park Burke's Club, and the City Terrace Starz cheerleading group.

Be sure to join us again next year for another fun filled day of people, parks and programs during the 2nd Annual Parks and Recreation Month Celebration.



People scaling the rock climbing wall

Strategic Plans



County Vision

"Enriching Lives"

Our **purpose** is to improve the quality of life in Los Angeles County by providing responsive, efficient and high quality public services that promote the self-sufficiency, well-being and prosperity of individuals, families, businesses and communities.

Our **philosophy** of teamwork and collaboration is anchored in our **shared values**:

- A can-do attitude we approach each challenge believing that, together, a solution can be achieved.
- **Accountability** we accept responsibility for the decisions we make and the actions we take.
- **Compassion** we treat those we serve and each other in a kind and caring manner.
- **Commitment** we always go the extra mile to achieve our mission.
- Integrity we act consistent with our values.
- Professionalism we perform to a high standard of excellence.
- **Respect for diversity** we value the uniqueness of every individual and their perspective.
- **Responsiveness** we take the action needed in a timely manner.

Our **position** as the premier organization for those working in the public interest is established by:

- a capability to undertake programs that have public value;
- an aspiration to be recognized through our achievements as the model for civic innovation; and a pledge to always work to earn the public trust.

County Mission

To enrich lives through effective and caring service

Strategic Plan Goals

- 1. Service Excellence
- 2. Workforce Excellence
- 3. Organizational Effectiveness
- 4. Fiscal Responsibility
- 5. Children and Families' Well-Being
- 6. Community Services
- 7. Health and Mental Health
- 8. Public Safety

Gloria Molina Supervisor First District Yvonne B. Burke Supervisor Second District Zev Yaroslavsky Supervisor Third District Don Knabe Supervisor Fourth District Michael D. Antonovich
Supervisor
Eith District

Mayor Antonovich Praises County's Business Technology Center Intern Program

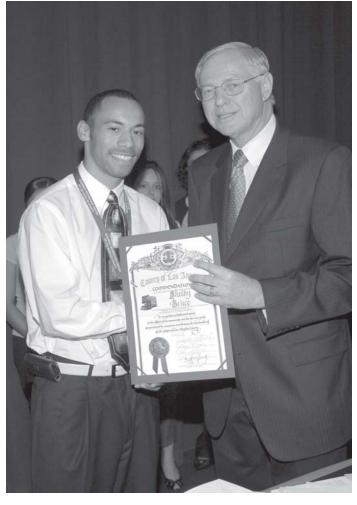
At a recent Board of Supervisors meeting, Mayor Michael D. Antonovich welcomed several representatives from the Business Technology Center (BTC) of Los Angeles County Intern Program, which began when the BTC was opened in October 1998.

The mission of the BTC intern program is to help young people develop business skills, introduce them to a professional work environment, and teach them the value of a strong, positive work ethic. During the tenure of this successful program, the BTC has hosted fourteen interns from various local schools, including John Muir High School, the University of Southern California, California State University, Los Angeles, and Glendale Community College. Additionally, the BTC works diligently with the Pasadena Unified School District to identify and hire at-risk youth as interns.

Four of the BTC's interns attended the Board meeting and received scrolls from Mayor Antonovich in recognition of their accomplishments. Zuleyma Rodriguez started her internship during her junior year at California State University, Los Angeles where she graduated a year later with a Bachelor of Arts degree. She was subsequently hired as a contract employee and values her intern experience at the BTC for helping her understand and appreciate the nuances of running a business.

Shelby Bruce entered the BTC Intern Program through the Workforce Investment Act (WIA) Youth Program as a sophomore at John Muir High School in 2003. He believes that his work on the BTC's BizTech2003 event developed his awareness of his full potential, including his personal and professional capabilities.

Armineh Dereghishian began working as an intern at the BTC in September of 2004 while attending Glendale Community College. She believes her two years of work experience at the BTC helped her develop a proper work etiquette, ethics and essential entrepreneurial skills. Frank Fowle was hired in February as a journalist for the BTC's fledgling e-newsletter, authoring articles on Tech Week 2006 and BTC



Mayor Antonovich is pictured with BTC intern Shelby Bruce.

workshops, as well as profiling new tenants and affiliates. Frank views his experience at the BTC as an opportunity to develop contacts and learn more about the growing Los Angeles County technology sector.

For more information on the BTC Intern Program, please contact Ingrid Goodman, Program Specialist, at (626) 296-6302.

2006 ANNUAL BENEFITS ENROLLMENT OCTOBER 1-31, 2006



Supervisor Yaroslavsky Unveils Plans for Homeless Community Court

Supervisor Zev Yaroslavsky on the steps of Santa Monica City Hall to unveil plans for a pilot Homeless Community Court, an innovative program aimed at breaking the cycle of arrest, jail and release for the area's chronically homeless population. On a motion by Yaroslavsky, the County allocated \$500,000 in the County's budget for the coming year to launch the program, which will set aside a courtroom for a half-day a month to resolve "quality of life" cases involving the chronically homeless, which will require defendants to access programs and services as part of their sentence. The City of Santa Monica will contribute about \$1.2 million through programs offering services and permanent housing. Joining Yaroslavsky, from the left, are Councilmember Herb Katz; Supervising Judge



of the Superior Court for the West District, Linda K. Lefkowitz; Councilmember Richard Bloom; Mayor Robert Holbrook; Santa Monica Police Chief James T. Butts; and Councilmember Bobby Shriver.

Step Into A Spider's World At The Natural History Museum

Arachnids Crawl Into The Spider Pavilion September 24-November 5



Visitors to the Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County will have a rare opportunity to observe nearly 100 spiders in their natural habitat in the Spider Pavilion, open from September 24

through November 5, 2006. The Spider Pavilion's unique, fully engaging concept, in which gallery interpreters guide small groups through an enclosed greenhouse area, puts visitors up close to Orb Weaver spiders such as the Golden Silk and the Banded Garden. In this setting, the only public spider-viewing center of its kind in the country, spiders can be seen busily creating intricate webs, interacting with one another and feeding on their prey.

The largest spider on view will be the Golden Silk, which builds webs up to three feet across. Most common in South America, Golden Silks are considered the largest spider in the Americas, with females measuring up to 1-3/4" in length. Male Golden Silks are about 1/5 the size of their mates.

The *Spider Pavilion* also features the Banded Garden Spider. The most common arachnid in the western United States, and easily identified by dramatic yellow and black markings, the

Banded Garden spider produces large, crisscross webs that resemble those of the most famous garden spider of all – Charlotte, of E. B. White's "Charlotte's Web."

The Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County's Spider Pavilion is located in an outdoor exhibition area on the Museum's South Lawn.

Spider Pavilion Special Ticketing

Timed tickets are available inside the Museum, with first availability for purchase at 10 a.m. and final sale at 4:30 p.m. each day. Adults \$3; Students/Seniors \$2; Children (5-12) \$1. Members receive FREE admission and the first available tickets.

LACERA Election Results

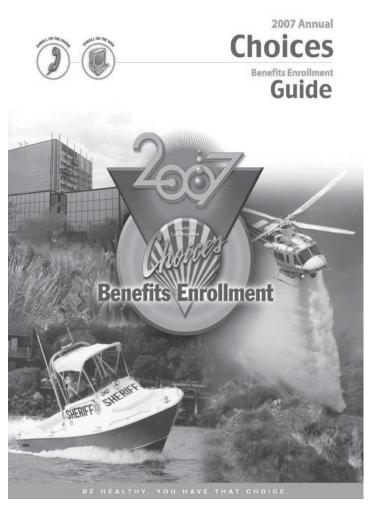
At its meeting of August 29, 2006, the Board of Supervisors approved the results of the August 8, 2006 elections for the Los Angeles County Employees Retirement Association. The Board declared Herman B. Santos elected as the Third Member, Board of Investments and Simon S. Russin elected as the Third Member, Board of Retirement.

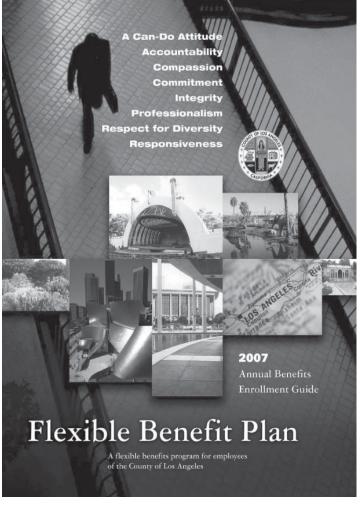
Supervisor Yaroslavsky Showcases the New Santa Monica Mountains ParkLINK Shuttle

Showcasing the new Santa Monica Mountains ParkLINK Shuttle on its July 1, 2006 debut are, from the left, Supervisor Zev Yaroslavsky, Ron Schafer, District Superintendent for the California Department of Parks and Recreation; Joe Edmiston, Executive Director of the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy; and three unidentified children enjoying a sunny day at Malibu Creek State Park. Jointly sponsored by federal and state parks agencies, the ParkLINK Shuttle offered County residents a convenient way to explore the Santa Monica Mountains National Recreation Area. Its route followed a loop along Pacific Coast Highway from Malibu Lagoon State Beach to Zuma Beach County Park and up through the Santa Monica Mountains, stopping at the Backbone Trailhead, Peter Strauss Ranch and Malibu Creek State Park, as well as



other hiking and walking points along the way. The air-conditioned shuttles seats 20, and include triple bike racks, storage for coolers, strollers and other equipment, and wheel-chair lifts.



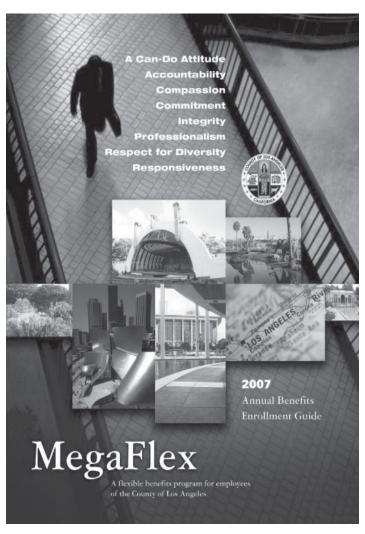


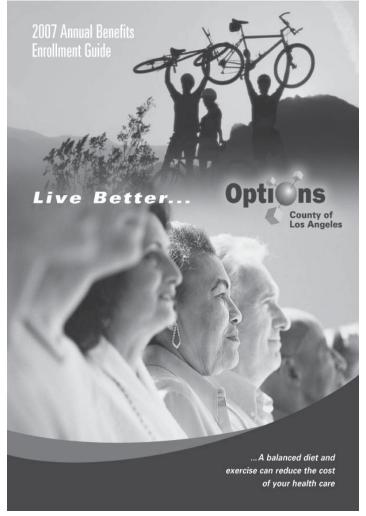


Supervisor Knabe Attends Medal of Valor Ceremony



Supervisor Knabe joins the Los Angeles County Lifeguard Association in honoring the 2006 Medal of Valor Awardees.





Share It

Family Place Libraries Boost Early Learning



The Los Angeles County Strategic Plan includes a goal to: *Improve the well-being of children and families in Los Angeles County*. Supporting this goal, and recognizing the importance of the early childhood years (0-3) in children's development, the County Library launched *Family Place*, a program to help parents become their child's first teacher.

Family Place is a new way that the County Library connects young children and parents with reading and learning. Libraries with Family Place centers offer family-friendly environments with bright and colorful spaces for children and their parents. The center includes a collection of books, toys, videos, and music for babies, toddlers, parents and caregivers. The specially selected materials highlight emergent literacy, reading readiness, and parent education.

An important part of the *Family Place* program is providing parents with access to community partners and services. Five-week parent/child workshops feature local professionals – nutritionists, speech and language therapists, child development experts – who are resources for parents and caregivers.

Visit a *Family Place* library with your young children. Play games and read stories. Enjoy special storytimes developed for babies and toddlers and their parents. Check out books to read at home to your child – and some on parenting skills for you.

County libraries with Family Place centers:

AC BILBREW LIBRARY 150 E. El Segundo Blvd., Los Angeles, 90061 (310) 538-3350

CARSON LIBRARY 151 E. Carson St., Carson, 90745 (310) 830-0901

CITY TERRACE LIBRARY 4025 E. City Terrace Dr., Los Angeles, 90063 (323) 261-0295

CLIFTON M. BRAKENSIEK LIBRARY 9945 E. Flower St., Bellflower, 90706 (562) 925-5543

EAST LOS ANGELES LIBRARY 4837 E. 3rd St., Los Angeles, 90022 (323) 264-0155

EAST RANCHO DOMINGUEZ LIBRARY 4205 E. Compton Blvd., East Rancho Dominguez, 90221 (310) 632-6193

FLORENCE LIBRARY 1610 E. Florence Ave., Los Angeles, 90001 (323) 581-8028

GARDENA MAYME DEAR LIBRARY 1731 W. Gardena Blvd., Gardena, 90247 (310) 323-6363

HACIENDA HEIGHTS LIBRARY 16010 La Monde St., Hacienda Heights, 91745 (626) 968-9356

LANCASTER LIBRARY 601 E. Lancaster Blvd., Lancaster, 93534 (661) 948-5029

QUARTZ HILL LIBRARY 42018 N. 50th Street West, Quartz Hill, 93536 (661) 943-2454

SAN FERNANDO LIBRARY 217 N. Maclay Ave., San Fernando, 91340 (818) 365-6928

WEST COVINA LIBRARY 1601 West Covina Parkway, West Covina, 91790 (626) 962-3541

WOODCREST LIBRARY 1340 W. 106th St., Los Angeles, 90044 (323) 757-9373

The County Library's *Family Place* program is growing. New locations will be added in the coming year.



Members of the Board

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> Gloria Molina First District

Yvonne B. Burke Second District

Zev Yaroslavsky Third District

Don KnabeFourth District

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